

REMARKS

Claims 56-89 are currently pending. This preliminary amendment follows an amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 filed with a Request for Continuing Examination ("RCE") on October 31, 2007. In this preliminary amendment, claims 56, 71, 81, and 85 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled. Accordingly, claims 56-89 remain pending in the present application.

The undersigned attorney and his colleague, Joe Brennan, wish to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview on December 12, 2007, to discuss the amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 filed with the RCE. The Interview Summary mailed December 14, 2007 indicated that the parties discussed all the dependent claims. The applicant would like to respectfully point out that the parties actually discussed all the independent claims. The parties further discussed the applied references and potential amendments to the independent claims. If the Examiner requires further details regarding the telephone interview, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Claim 56 has been amended to recite "providing human-perceptible notification in real time." Claim 71 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 81 has been amended to recite "automatically notifying the participant in a human-perceptible manner." Claim 85 has been amended to recite "a computer system comprising at least a memory and a processor." These amendments are fully supported by the specification and figures as originally filed. (See, e.g., Figure 1, showing an application server, commonly known to have at least a processor and memory.)

In the amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 filed with the RCE, applicant set forth reasons why the pending claims are patentable over the applied references of Eichstaedt, Dey and Hunt. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended are patentable over Eichstaedt, Dey and Hunt, for at least the reasons set forth in the RCE.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 345288017US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 3, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Christopher J. Daley-Watson

Registration No.: 34,807

PERKINS COIE LLP

P.O. Box 1247

Seattle, Washington 98111-1247

(206) 359-8000

(206) 359-7198 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant